



# fintech\_ devcon

PRESENTED BY **MOOV**



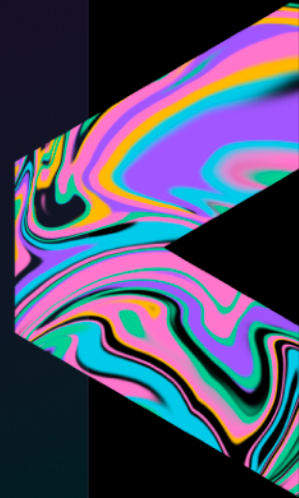
# <iframe>able finance:

designing and building embedded UIs

They don't know i**FRAMES**



< if  
design





# <iframe>able finance:

designing and building embedded UIs



# Adam Solove

Product @ Rainforest



## Payments

All Succeeded Refunded Failed

<input type="checkbox"/>	AMOUNT	NAME	METH
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500.00 USD	Arlene McCoy	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,800.00 USD	Esther Howard	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$900.00 USD	Darrell Steward	

5 Steps  
**Merchant onboarding**  
🕒 Approximate completion time — 05:30 min

First name

Email

Next step

Credit card Bank transfer

	VISA	MasterCard	AMERICAN EXPRESS	DISCOVER	
5555 5555 5555 4444	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12 / 30	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
123	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Simmons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4443	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2343	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

# <iframe>d payments

1995

Bob's Stamps

Mail a check

2005

Bob's Stamps

Paypal

2015

Bob's Stamps

Stripe



# <iframe>d insurance

2000

Delta

Find Insurer

2010

Delta

Insurer

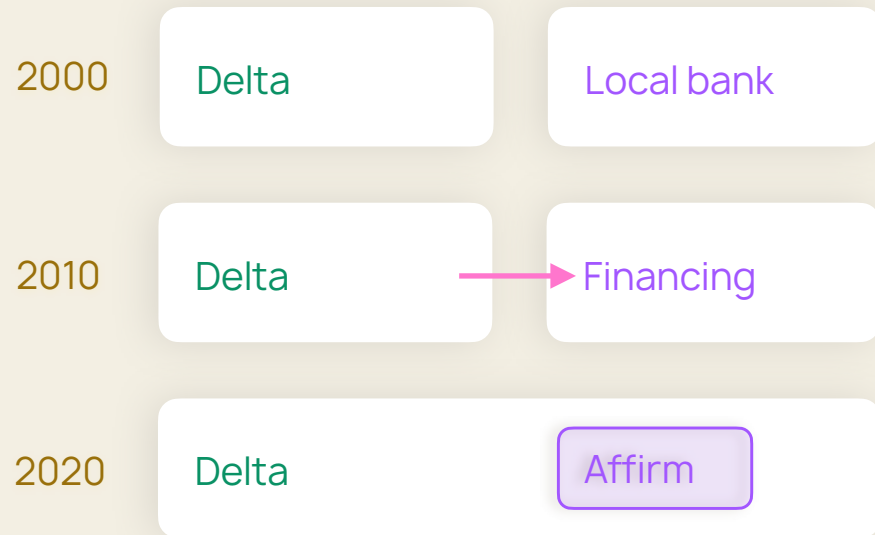
2020

Delta

Insurer

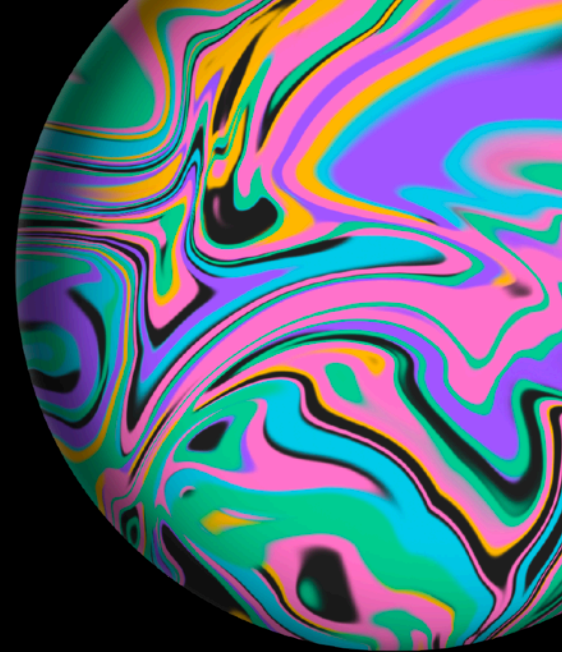


<iframe>d  
credit





Great **embedded UIs**  
make great **distribution**  
make **winners** and **losers**



# Contents



What? Why?



Product design



Developer  
experience



Engineering





# Product design

**Stakeholders & constraints**

**Mindset**

**Holistic thinking**

**Communicating**



# Product mindset for embedded UIs

## Get ready for more

- collaboration
- stakeholders and constraints
- obscure technical limitations
- security and compliance concerns



# More stakeholders, more constraints

## Normal constraints

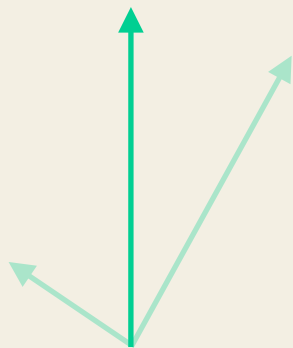
- Good business
- Usable for customers
- Fast, Reliable
- Secure
- Compliant, Legal

## Extra constraints

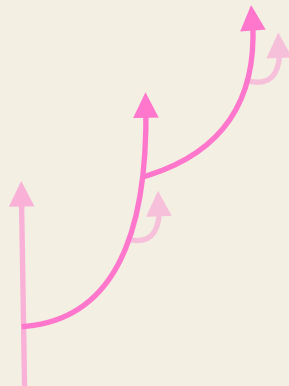
- Good for partner's business
- Partner PMs' and designers' opinions
- Partner's engineers and existing systems
- Partner's security and compliance team
- Checking partner's compliance



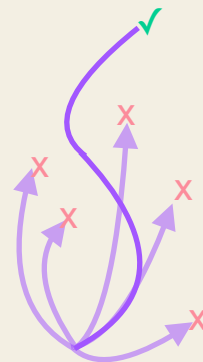
# Different product mindsets



**Guess a direction  
and move fast**



**Experiment by  
following data**

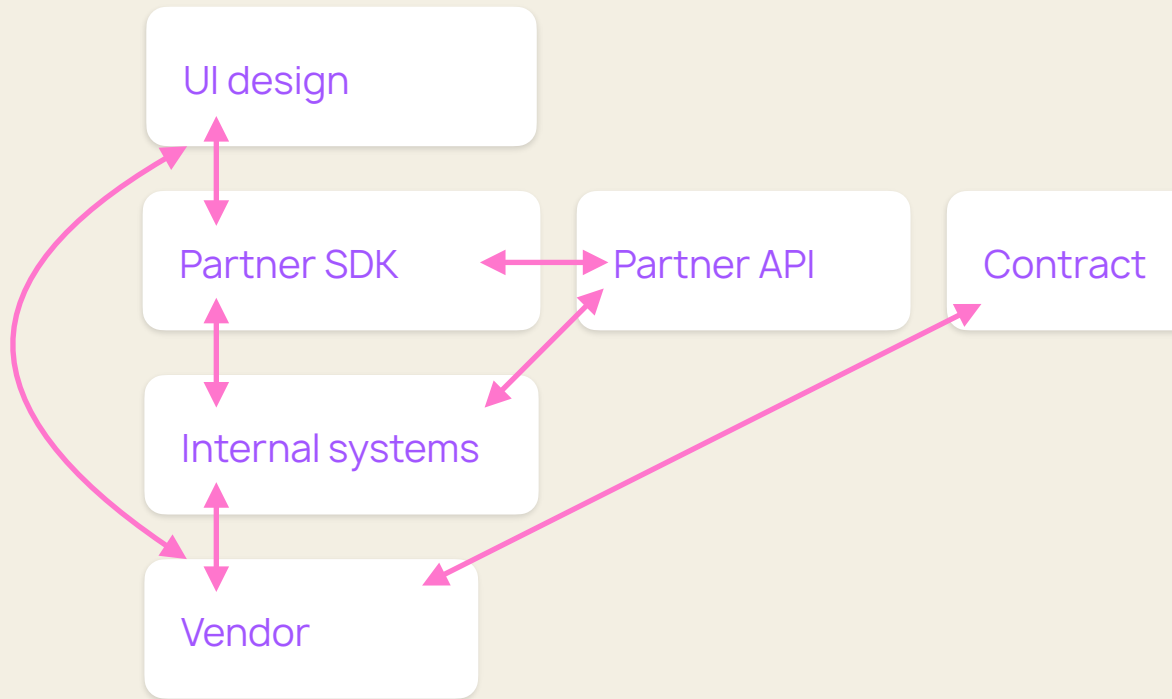


**Navigate through  
a minefield**

# Think holistically

## Hold the vision

- Made tradeoffs across levels
- Track down the implications
- Explain what **can't** change



# Write it down

## Share the vision

- A working document, not a spec
- Thinking happens **in** and **with** the doc
- Zoom to different levels of detail
- Sharable across teams

## [Product brief] Merchant onboarding comp

Owner: @jr

Updated: 2023-08-09

Status: Executing M1 [[Linear](#)], M2 in review [next: @julia]

### Users say:

[Redacted]

### We plan to build

[Redacted]

### Goals and constraints

Customer UI:

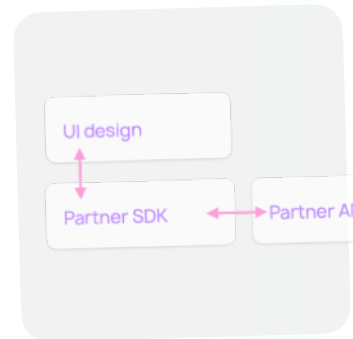
[Redacted]

Partner styling:

[Redacted]

Vendor compliance review:

[Redacted]







# Developer experience

**Control flow**

**API design**

**Styling**

**Quality review**





# Control flow is the hard part

Card number

MM / DD

CVV

Zip

Pay \$100

Card number

MM / DD

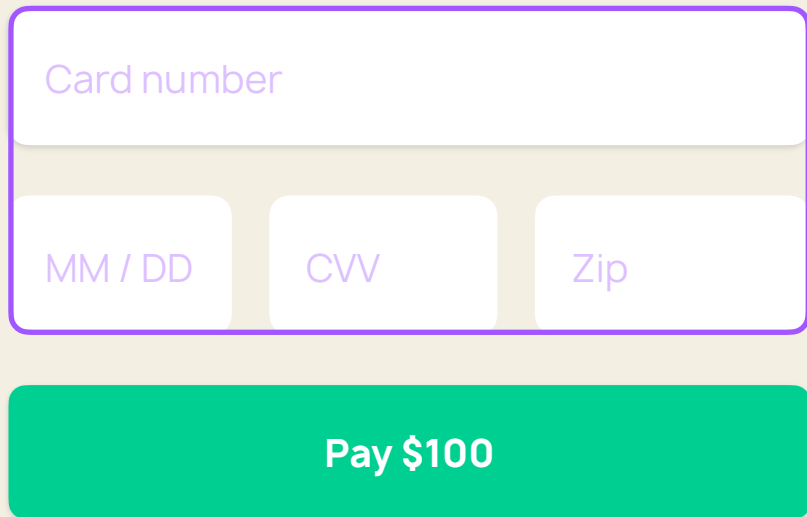
CVV

Zip

Pay \$100



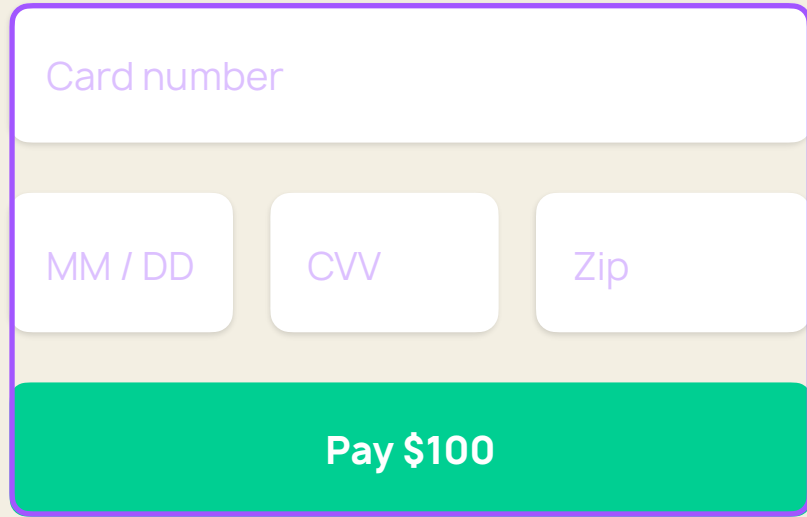
# Control flow is the hard part



Card number

MM / DD CVV Zip

Pay \$100



Card number

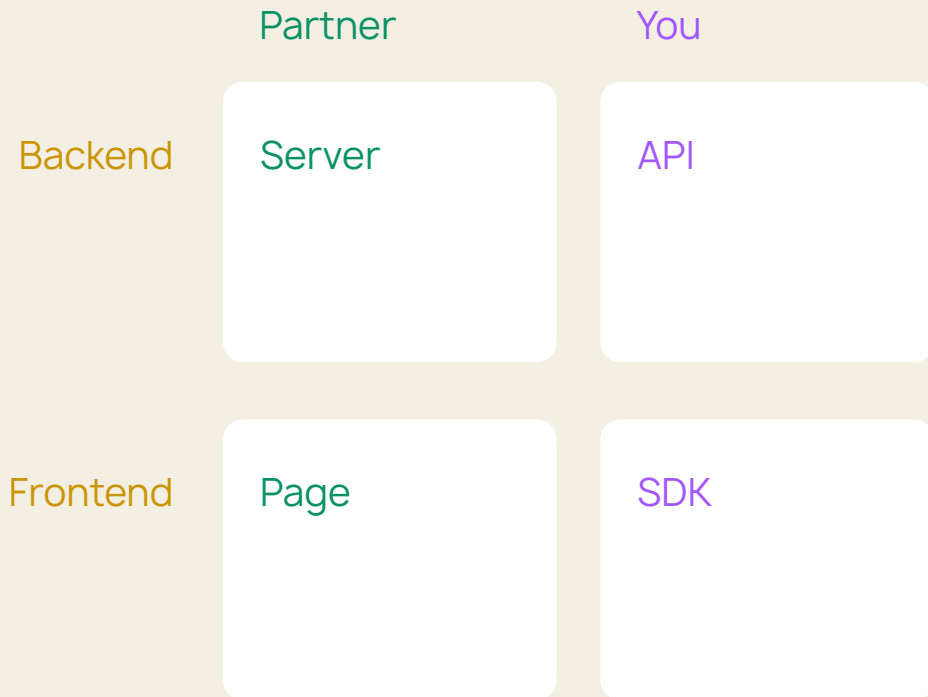
MM / DD CVV Zip

Pay \$100

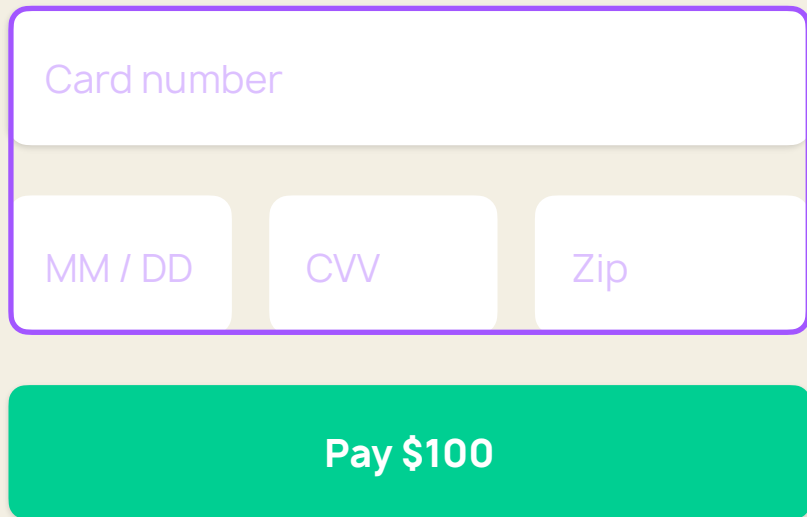


# Control flow

Four-square diagram



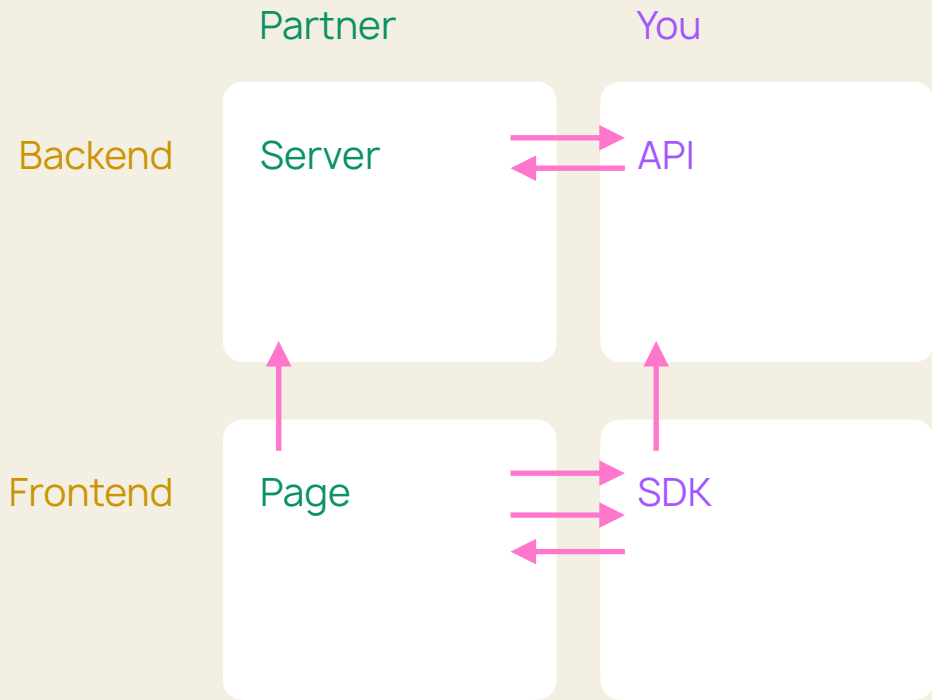
# Flow one



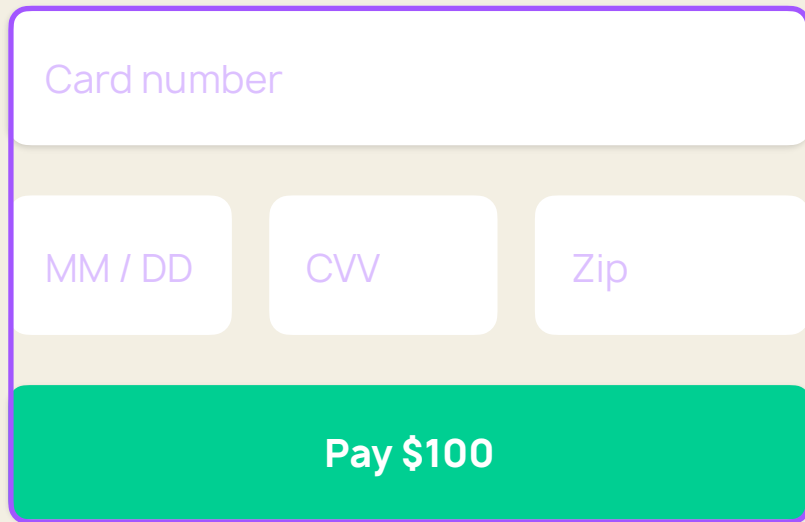
Card number

MM / DD    CVV    Zip

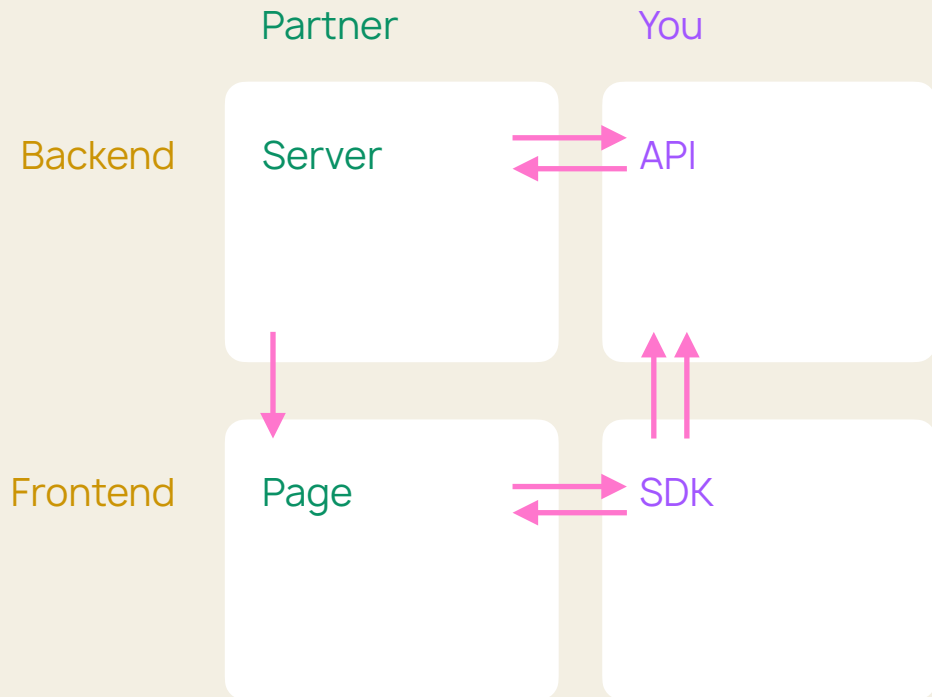
**Pay \$100**



# Flow two



A payment form diagram with a purple border. It contains a large input field for 'Card number', three smaller input fields for 'MM / DD', 'CVV', and 'Zip', and a green button labeled 'Pay \$100'.



# Control flow tradeoffs

Card number

MM / DD    CVV    Zip

Pay \$100

Routing number

Account number

Pay \$100



Developer experience

# Frontend APIs

Make it easy and universal



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@fintechdevcon

#fintechdevcon

fintechdevcon.io





Developer experience

# Frontend APIs

Make it easy and universal

Your partners:

- Hate and fear <iframe>s

```
// Don't make partners think about iframes!  
// Unstructured attributes, calls, and events  
<iframe src="https://you.com/widget?color=blue"  
iframe.postMessage({type: "submit"}, "you.com");  
window.addEventListener("message", (event) => {  
  // Partners handles arbitrary events themselves  
  if(event.type === "focus"){ ... }  
})
```



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fintechdevcon.io



# Frontend APIs

## Make it easy and universal

Your partners' developers:

- Hate and fear `<iframe>`s
- Want types, auto-complete, lint, or any other help to use your API

```
// Don't make partners think about iframes!  
// Unstructured attributes, calls, and events  
<iframe src="https://you.com/widget?color=blue"/>  
iframe.postMessage({type: "submit"}, "you.com");  
window.addEventListener("message", (event) => {  
  // Partners handles arbitrary events themselves  
  if(event.type === "focus"){ ... }  
})
```

```
// Wrap in component to give structured  
// attributes, methods, return values, events  
<payment-component color="blue"/>  
component.submit().then((data: SubmitResponse) => {  
  component.addEventListener("focus", (event) => {  
    // ...  
  })  
})
```

```
// Or wrap in an imperative API  
var component = You.paymentComponent({color: 'blue'})  
component.submit().then((data: SubmitResponse) => {  
  component.on("focus", (data) => {  
    // ...  
  })  
})
```





# Frontend APIs

## Make it easy and universal

Your partners' developers:

- Hate and fear `<iframe>`s
- Want types, auto-complete, lint, or any other help to use your API
- Use a different framework, language, design system, and build tool

```
// Don't make partners think about iframes!  
// Unstructured attributes, calls, and events  
<iframe src="https://you.com/widget?color=blue"  
iframe.postMessage({type: "submit"}, "you.com");  
window.addEventListener("message", (event) => {  
  // Partners handles arbitrary events themselves  
  if(event.type === "focus"){ ... }  
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```
// Wrap in component to give structured  
// attributes, methods, return values, events  
<payment-component color="blue"/>  
component.submit().then((data: SubmitResponse) => {  
  component.addEventListener("focus", (event) => {
```

```
// Or wrap in an imperative API  
var component = You.paymentComponent({color: 'blue'})  
component.submit().then((data: SubmitResponse) => {  
  component.on("focus", (data) => {
```



# Styling APIs

## Work backwards from your goal

- Take pages from your prospective and aspirational partners
- Design how your embedded UI would best fit into their page
- Then built in the style options

Dr. Jennifer Rosen

Card number

MM / DD

CVV

Zip

Buy now



# Draft docs

## Will it make sense to a partner?

Write a draft integration guide for the simplest complete use-case:

- Explain the feature
- List the setup requirements, API calls, events, and webhooks.
- Show screenshots or sample results
- Explain how to test in development



## Onboarding merchants with embedded comp

Before you can start processing payments, you first need to onboard your merchant.

### 1. Create the merchant

First, call [Create Merchant](#), providing as much information as you already have about the merchant.

```
POST /v1/merchants
{
  name: "Your new merchant"
}
```

### 2. Embed the merchant onboarding component

Next, you will render the onboarding component as part of your application, providing the merchant ID and session key.

```
<rainforest-merchant-onboarding
  session-key="{{session_key}}"
  merchant-id="{{merchant_id}}"
></rainforest-merchant-onboarding>
```

Then listen to find out when the component is submitted:

```
var component = document.querySelector("rainforest-merchant-onboarding");
component.addEventListener('submitted', function (data) {
  // handle submit and show the merchant the next step
  console.log("you probably can't see this");
});
```

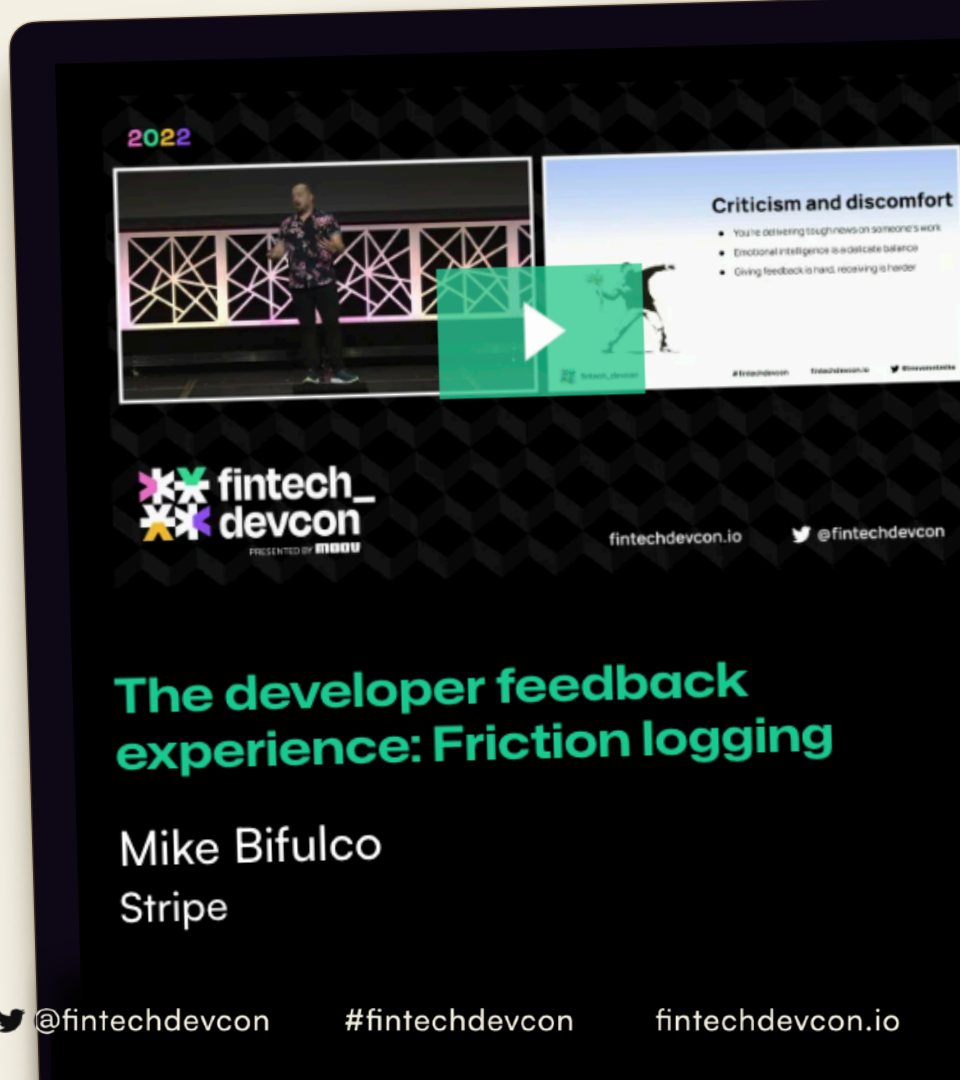


# Friction logs

## Experience your product as an outsider

- **What?** Try it as if an external user
- **Who?** You, your company, real users
- **When?** Before, during, and after

Do something **unusual**: use a different language, programming environment, browser, business model, etc.



## The developer feedback experience: Friction logging

Mike Bifulco  
Stripe



# Engineering

**<iframe> limits**

**<iframe> communication**

**Security**



# <iframe> limits

Don't assume it will "just work"

Dr. Jennifer Rosen

Card number

MM / DD

CWV

Zip

Buy now





# <iframe> limits

Don't assume it will "just work"

- Focus and blur
- Autocomplete
- User activation

Dr. Jennifer Rosen

Card number

MM / DD

CWV

Zip

Buy now



# <iframe> limits

## Don't assume it will "just work"

- Focus and blur
- Autocomplete
- User activation

## Develop and test realistically

- In an iframe, on https, from another origin
- Using a realistic sample integration

Dr. Jennifer Rosen

Card number

MM / DD

CWV

Zip

Buy now



# <iframe> communication

Wrap `postMessage()` to make it better

```
// Don't litter postMessage and listener
// calls throughout your code.
iframe.postMessage({
  type: "check-valid",
  id: 1,
  options
}, "you.com")

window.addEventListener("message", (event) =>
  /* check it's safe */
  if (event.origin !== "you.com" && event.source !== window)
    return;
}
  /* check it's for us */
  if (event.replyTo === 1){
    /* handle reply to this call... */
  }
})
```



# <iframe> communication

## Wrap `postMessage()` to make it better

- Add type or validity checking to both sides
- Add safety checks in one place
- Create a request-response Promise flow
- Debug-level logging for payloads

```
// Build a nicer abstraction
child
  .checkValid(options as CheckValidRequest)
  .then((data: CheckValidResponse) => {
    /* handle response */
  })
```



# <iframe> security

<iframe>s aren't enough



# <iframe> security

<iframe>s aren't enough

- Check message provenance



# <iframe> security

## <iframe>s aren't enough

- Check message provenance
- Use Content Security Policy

```
Content-Security-Policy:  
default-src 'self';  
img-src static.you.com;  
style-src static.you.com;  
script-src js.you.com;  
connect-src api.you.com;  
report-to https://ops.you.com/collector
```



# <iframe> security

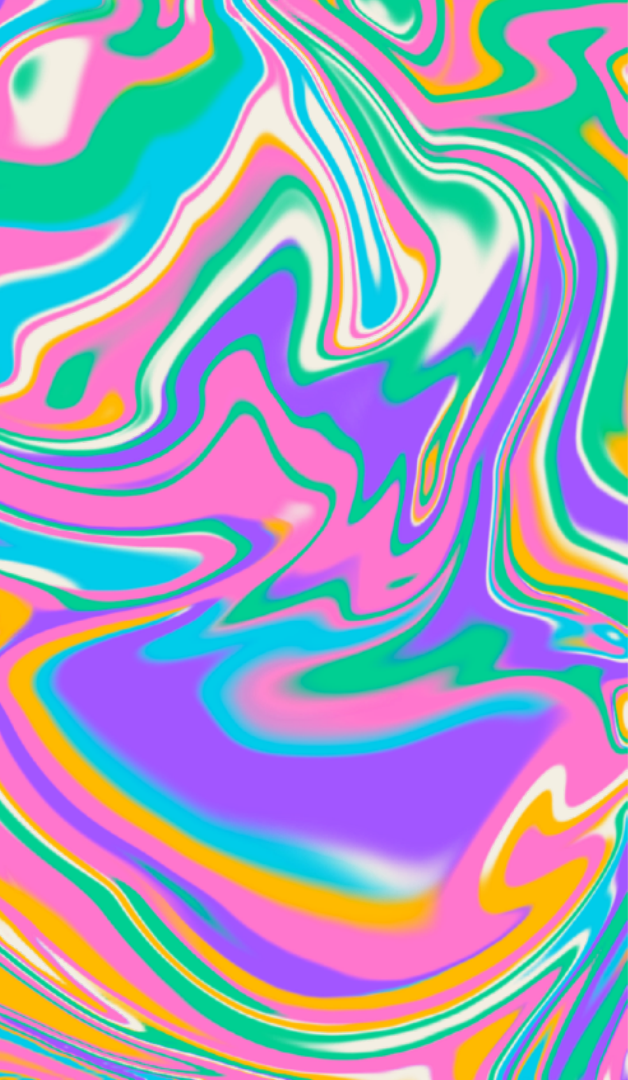
## <iframe>s aren't enough

- Check message provenance
- Use Content Security Policy
- Watch for hidden side-effects

```
@font-face {
  font-family: 'Attack Font';
  src: url('0.woff') format('woff');
  unicode-range: U+30; /* "0" */
}
@font-face {
  font-family: 'Attack Font';
  src: url('1.woff') format('woff');
  unicode-range: U+31; /* "1" */
}
@font-face {
  font-family: 'Attack Font';
  src: url('2.woff') format('woff');
  unicode-range: U+32; /* "2" */
}
@font-face {
  font-family: 'Attack Font';
  src: url('3.woff') format('woff');
  unicode-range: U+33; /* "3" */
}
```







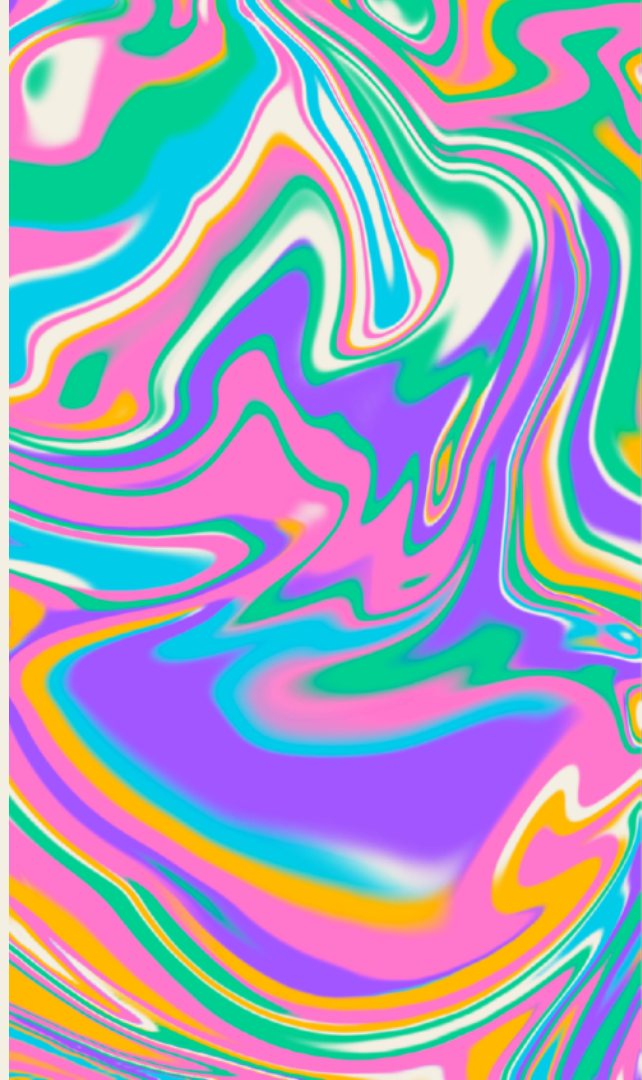
# Raise our ambitions

Embedded UIs can be  
easy, beautiful, and profitable.

<iframe> friends,  
let's talk!

Find me at the conference. Or talk later:

- [adam.solove@rainforestpay.com](mailto:adam.solove@rainforestpay.com)
- [linkedin.com/in/asolove](https://www.linkedin.com/in/asolove)
- [adamsolove.com](https://adamsolove.com)





# Thank *you.*

Adam Solove, Product @ Rainforest



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# <iframe>able finance:

designing and building embeddable UIs